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H. MILNE EDWARDS'S "HISTOIRE NATURELLE DES CRUSTACÉS" (1834-1840) AND ITS DATES OF PUBLICATION

by

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Introduction. — By far the most important and fundamental carcinological publication of the first half of the 19th century unquestionably is Henri Milne Edwards's (1834-1840) "Histoire naturelle des Crustacés", which treated all species of Crustacea known at that time in an exceedingly clear and comprehensive manner. The work was published in three volumes of text and one atlas. The dates of publication of it have never caused any difficulty. It was generally accepted that volume I was published in 1834, volume II in 1837, and volume III in 1840. These dates have never been challenged, and on closer examination indeed prove to be correct. About the date or dates of the atlas authors were vague and usually cited 1834-1840, or 1840, or they cited the atlas without any date. As the illustrations are accompanied on the plates with their French vernacular generic names only, the exact dates of the plates were of no nomenclatural interest.

Recently I acquired a copy of the atlas, that made it possible for me to assign proper dates to all of the plates. It was therefore thought of interest to publish these dates and at the same time to try and narrow down the dates of the text.

The work itself and the series "suites à Buffon". — H. Milne Edwards's work formed part of the series "Suites à Buffon" published by the "Librairie encyclopédique de Roret" of Paris. This series consists of 84 volumes published between 1834 and 1890. It has also been indicated with the names "Nouvelles Suites à Buffon" and "Collection des Suites à Buffon", while the name "Roret's Suites à Buffon" is sometimes used to distinguish it from other series that occasionally are indicated with "Suites à Buffon". Between 1799 and 1802, namely, R. R. Castel edited an in-18° edition of the "Histoire Naturelle de Buffon", being an updated 26 volume edition of Buffon's great

oeuvre; this set was followed by a "Suite à cette édit. 54 Vols. (en 108 demi-vol.)" (Engelmann, 1846, Bibliotheca historico-naturalis, 1:150), published by Déterville of Paris. This "Suite" contains the well-known work of L. A. G. Bosc "Histoire naturelle des Crustacés" (1802). The words "Suites à Buffon" are not mentioned on the title pages of any of the volumes of this series, and I did not find them either on the title page or the paper wrappers of the 1830 edition of Bosc's 1802 work. The 1830 edition of the series (the Crustacea in it were revised by A. G. Desmarest) was defined as the "Seule édition complète des Suites à Buffon, format de 18" (see Nissen, 1966, Zool. Buchillustration, 1:74, no. 681), and was published by Roret in Paris. Another "Suites à Buffon" series is the one edited by C. N. S. Sonnini (1798-1807) and published by Dufort of Paris; it consists of 63 volumes (see Engelmann, 1846: 149, 150; Nissen, 1966: 75, no. 682). To this series belongs P. A. Latreille's (1802-1805) "Histoire naturelle, générale et particulière, des Crustacés et des Insectes", which has as its subtitle "Ouvrage faisant suite aux Oeuvres de Leclerc de Buffon...". This series is often indicated as "Sonnini's Suites à Buffon".

The first volume of H. Milne Edwards's "Histoire naturelle des Crustacés" formed the second volume of Roret's (1834-1890) series "suites à Buffon" (the first volume being vol. I of A. M. C. Duméril & G. Bibron's "Erpétologie générale"). No official numbers were given to the volumes of the series, and on the title pages of the separate volumes there is no indication whatever that they belong to the series. The name of the series, however, was printed on the paper covers of some or all of the livraisons, and on those of some or all of the complete volumes.

Originally it was the intention that H. Milne Edwards's "Histoire Naturelle des Crustacés" would consist of two volumes only (1834, Ann. Sci. nat. Paris, Zool., (2)1: 290, footnote). The wealth of material then evidently made it necessary to expand it to three volumes of text and one atlas. The publication of a supplement, for which H. Milne Edwards (1840: i, ii) held out the prospect in the "Avertissement" at the beginning of his vol. 3, never materialized.

Paper covers. — As the paper covers of the livraisons and those of the complete volumes usually were discarded when the volumes were bound, they are now extremely rare. So far I have only seen 6 covers belonging to the "Histoire Naturelle des Crustacés", and found them to be of three different types:

Of the first type, the oldest, I have seen only a single copy, namely that of the second livraison of my own copy of the atlas (see below, p. 294). It has the following title on the front: "Suites / a / Buffon / — / Planches / 2

Livraison / — / Crustacés. / Paris / A la librairie encyclopédique de Roret. / Rue Hautefeuille. N°. 10 bis.". The number 2 before Livraison is stamped in and the word "Crustacés." is printed on a white slip of paper that is pasted on the green coloured cover. The inside pages and the back of the cover all are blank. This cover dates from 1837 (see below under the discussion of the atlas, pp. 294, 295).

The second type cover is very similar to the first. It was found on a copy of the complete, unbound atlas, and has a pale manila colour. The front carries the following title: "Suites / a / Buffon / — / Planches / Livraison Crustacés. / — / Paris / [A la libr]airie encyclopédique de Roret. / [Rue Hautefe]uille, N° 12." A corner of the front is torn off and missing; it carried the words put here in square brackets, which therefore are only surmised here. The word "Crustacés.", like in the cover of the first type, is printed on a white slip of paper, but in the present copy it is pasted over the word "Livraison", so that under the title "Suites à Buffon" it reads "Planches Crustacés.". The inside pages of this cover are blank, but the back carries a single line of print in the lower half: "Imp. Roret, r. Hautefeuille 12.". This cover dates from 1847 or later, as is shown by the address printed both on the front and on the back: "Rue Hautefeuille, N°. 12". This address, namely, is printed on the title pages of all volumes of the "Suites à Buffon" that have been published in 1852 (M. H. Guénée, 1852, Histoire naturelle des Insectes. Spécies général des Lépidoptères, 5) or later, while in all volumes that were published in 1847 (C. A. de Walckenaer & N. P. Gervais, 1847, Histoire naturelle des Insectes. Aptères, 4) and earlier, the address is given as "Rue Hautefeuille, N°. 10 bis", as it is also on the cover of the first type. The cover of the second type thus was printed long after the "Histoire naturelle des Crustacés" was finished in 1840.

The covers of the third type are those of an unbound copy of the "Histoire Naturelle des Crustacés" owned by Dr. Raymond B. Manning, Washington, D.C. It has a pale manila colour. The covers of the three text volumes are exactly the same and carry on the front the following inscription: "Collection / des / suites a Buffon / formant / avec les oeuvres de cet auteur / un / cours complet d'histoire naturelle / publiées avec la collaboration / de Membres de l'Institut de France, / de Professeurs du Muséum d'Histoire naturelle de Paris, / et de diverses Facultés, / de Membres de la Société Entomologique de France, etc. / — / Crustacés / [vignette] / Paris / Roret, Libraire-éditeur / Rue Hautefeuille, 12.". The word "Crustacés" is printed on a slip of paper that is pasted on the cover. The cover of the atlas has the front page exactly as in the text volumes, except that here is no pasted slip, but in its place the following lines are printed on the cover itself above the vignette: "Crustacés

/ — / Planches / —". The inside pages of the cover are blank, but on the back there is printed a "Division de l'ouvrage et noms des collaborateurs", listing all the parts of the series and their authors, while also the prices of the text volumes and of the plates are indicated. Unfortunately the number of volumes of each part is not mentioned; however, only two parts ("Mollusques" and "Cryptogames") are listed as being "en préparation". These two parts were never finished (of the Mollusca only 17 plates appeared, the Cryptogamia were not published at all). The fact that the address "Rue Hautefeuille 12" is given on these wrappers shows that they must have been published after 1846. Exactly the same covers (apart from the slip with the word "Crustacés", which is here replaced by one with the word "Annelés") are found on the Leiden Museum copies of L. Vaillant's "Histoire Naturelle des Annelés marins et d'eaux douce" vol. III pt. 1 (1889) and pt. 2 (1890), which form the last volumes of the series "Suites à Buffon". The fact that these wrappers are used on the volumes of 1889 and 1890, while furthermore the author of these two volumes is mentioned on the back page of the cover, make it likely that the wrapper has been printed in 1889 or later. It is peculiar that on these covers the publisher is cited as "Roret, Libraire-éditeur", while in all volumes of the "Suites", including those published in 1889 and 1890, the publisher is consistently cited on the title page as "Librairie encyclopédique de Roret". This might be an indication that the third type of cover dates from after 1890, and that these wrappers may have been made at that late date in order to sell the remaining stock with fresh covers that gave the new name and address of the publisher and the updated prices.

Prices. — In 1834 the price of each volume was announced to be 4 fr. 50 c. for subscribers to the whole series "Suites à Buffon", and 6 fr. for separate volumes; for the plates the price was "3 fr. par livraison de planches noires ou 6 fr. pour les planches coloriées" (1834, Ann. Sci. nat. Paris, Zool., (2)1: 290, footnote). Later (1839, 1845) the price per volume for subscribers was 5 fr. 50 c., that for separate volumes 6 fr. 50 c., the price for the plates remained unaltered (1839, Duméril & Bibron, Erpétologie générale, 5: verso of half title; 1845, Dujardin, Hist. nat. Helminthes: verso of half title). In 1889 and 1890 the prices were higher again: subscribers to the whole series paid 6 fr. for a volume of text, which was available separately for 7 fr., and a livraison of plates then cost 3 fr. 50 c. for uncoloured plates and 7 fr. for a coloured copy (1889, 1890, Vaillant, Hist. nat. Annelés marins et d'eau douce, 3 (1) and (2): back covers). In 1978 a complete copy of the "Histoire Naturelle des Crustacés" with coloured plates was offered for sale second hand, for the equivalent of about 1900 French francs.

Date of publication. — The date of publication of the three text volumes

and the atlas of H. Milne Edwards's "Histoire naturelle des Crustacés" will now be discussed separately for each.

Volume I.

The text of this volume consists of an introduction (pp. i-xxxv) and a regular text of 468 pages (pp. 1-468), which are preceded by the half title "Histoire naturelle / des / Crustaces. / I.", its verso: "Paris. - Imprimerie et fonderie de Fain, / Rue Racine, N°. 4, Place de l'Odéon.", and the title page: "Histoire naturelle / des / Crustacés, / comprenant / l'anatomie, la physiologie et la classification / de ces animaux; / Par M. Milne Edwards, / Docteur en médecine, professeur d'histoire naturelle au collége / Royal de Henri IV et à l'École Centrale des Arts / et Manufactures. / Tome Premier. / Ouvrage accompagné de planches. / Paris. / Librairie encyclopédique de Roret, / Rue Hautefeuille, N°. 10 bis. / — / 1834."; the verso of the title page is blank. The volume thus contains 31¾ sheets. Five tables (four of which folding) are placed between the text.

The introduction (pp. i-xxxv) was reprinted verbatim as a separate article in the May 1834 issue of Annales des Sciences Naturelles, Paris (Zoologie, (2) 1: 290-312) under the title "Histoire naturelle des Crustacées" with H. Milne Edwards as the author. In a footnote (on p. 290) to this article the publication of vol. I of Milne Edwards's book was announced and it was stated that "Cet ouvrage, qui formera deux volumes in-8°, et qui sera accompagné d'un atlas de quarante planches, fait partie des *suites à Buffon* . . .".

During the session of 10 March 1834 of the Académie des Sciences of Paris, "Un Mémoire de M. Milne-Edwards intitulé *Histoire naturelle des Crustacés* est renvoyé à l'examen de MM. Duméril et Frédéric Cuvier" (1922, Proc.-Verb. Séances Acad., 10: 464). The report of the Duméril-F. Cuvier Committee on H. Milne Edwards's book was presented to the Académie on its session of 7 April 1834. The committee declared: "Nous n'avons eu sous les yeux que les épreuves du premier volume avec les planches qui doivent l'accompagner . . ." (1922, Proc.-Verb. Séances Acad., 10: 486).

In Bibliographie de France (23 (15): 239) of 12 April 1834, the publication of vol. I of the "Histoire Naturelle des Crustacés" was announced, under entry no. 1977, as follows: "1977. Histoire naturelle des Crustacés, contenant l'anatomie, la physiologie et la classification de ces animaux. Par M. Milne Edwards. Tome I^er^. In-8° de 31 feuilles ¾, plus un cahier de 10 pl. et un quart de feuille. Imp. de Fain, à Paris. — A Paris, chez Roret, rue Hautefeuille, no. 10 bis. 2e livraison des Suites à Buffon".

As on 7 April 1834 A. M. C. Duméril & F. Cuvier knew the work only from

the proofs, while on 12 April it was announced as being published, the date of publication must lie between 7 and 12 April 1834.

Volume II.

The text of volume II consists of 532 pages (pp. 1-531, and some errata on the unnumbered p. 532). The half title is as in the first volume, only the word Crustacés has now an acute accent on the e, and, of course, the number I is replaced by II; the verso of the half title is the same as in vol. I. The main title page of vol. II differs from that of vol. I, apart from the volume number (Tome Deuxième, instead of Tome Premier) and the year (1837 instead of 1834), only in the qualifications of the author, which here are listed as follows: "Docteur ès Sciences et en Médecine, Membre de la Légion d'Honneur, / Professeur d'Histoire naturelle au Collége Royal de Henri IV / et à l'École Centrale des Arts et Manufactures.". The entire text and preliminaries occupy 33½ sheets altogether; two folding tables are placed between the text.

In the issue of March 1837 of the Annales des Sciences Naturelles, Paris (Zool., (2) 7: 192) the publication of vol. II of the "Histoire Naturelle des Crustacés" was announced ("Le second volume de cet ouvrage vient de paraître . . .").

In Bibliographie de France the publication of this volume was announced in the issue of 1 July 1837 (vol. 26 (26): 308), under no. 3259. After citing the title of the work, the following information was given: "Tome II. in-8° de 33 feuilles ½, plus un cahier de 10 pl. et un quart de feuille.", followed by the names of the printer and publisher as cited above for volume I, and "Livraison des suites à Buffon" (without a number).

Finally, the Académie des Sciences announced "*Nouvelles suites à Buffon. - Histoire des Crustacés*; tome 2, in-8°." as being received in the "séance du lundi 23 octobre 1837" (1837, C. R. Acad. Sci. Paris, 5: 603).

It is peculiar that the dates, on which the publication of vol. II of Milne Edwards's book was announced in the three above mentioned sources, are so wide apart: March (in Ann. Sci. nat.), 1 July (in Bibl. France), and 23 October (in C. R. Acad. Sci.). That the Académie was not prompt in announcing new publications (or did not receive them directly upon their appearance) is shown by that receipt of vol. I of "Histoire Naturelle des Crustacés", published in April 1834, was first announced in the session of the Académie of 2 June 1834 (1922, Proc.-Verb. Séances Acad., 10: 530). The Bibliographie de France, however, usually was very prompt in the announcement of new publications.

The question now is whether the March 1837 issue of Annales des Sciences Naturelles (Zoologie) was really published in March. An advertisement on

the cover of a reprint from the Annales of 1833 stated that of the journal "Il paraîtra exactement, le 1er de chaque mois, un cahier de 7 feuilles d'impression . . .". That this "exactement" was not quite true, at least in 1837, is shown by the fact that in the February 1837 issue of the Annales (Ann. Sci. nat. Paris, Zool., (2) 7: 122) is published an "Extrait d'une lettre adressée à l'Académie des Sciences le 17 avril 1837.". This means that this February issue was at least two months late. The next issue, that of March 1837 (containing the announcement of H. Milne Edwards's vol. II), must therefore also have been published after 17 April 1837 and probably much later. In view of the doubtful date of this March issue, and of the fact that the Bibliographie de France usually was very prompt, it seems best to ignore the former and to accept, until other evidence is forthcoming, 1 July 1837 as the date of publication of volume II of the "Histoire Naturelle des Crustacés".

Volume III.

The text of this volume starts with an announcement of two pages (pp. i, ii) followed by the actual text (pp. 1-638). The half title, apart from the number II, which is replaced by III, is the same as that in vol. II; on the verso of the half title is printed: "Paris. — Imprimerie de Fain et Thunot, Rue Racine, n° 28.". On the main title page the differences with those of the previous volumes are again in the volume number (Tome Troisième), the year (1840) and the qualifications of the author: "Membre de l'Institut (Académie des Sciences) et de la Légion- / d'Honneur, Agrégé de la Faculté des Sciences de Paris, / Professeur à l'Ecole Centrale des Arts / et Manufactures, etc.". The whole volume forms 40¼ sheets; 5 folding tables are placed between the text.

In 1839 (on the verso of the half title of vol. V of Duméril & Bibron's "Erpétologie générale") it was announced that of the "Histoire Naturelle des Crustacés", "Le tome 3 et dernier paraîtra en 1839". This, however, proved to be too optimistic. The Bibliographie de France (29 (44): 592) announced the publication of volume III in its issue of 31 October 1840, citing under no. 5261 after the title and author: "Tome III. In-8° de 24 feuilles ¾, plus un cahier de 10 pl. et un quart de feuille. Impr. de Fain, à Paris. — A Paris, chez Roret, rue Hautefeuille, no. 10 bis. Prix, pour les souscript.: 5 fr. 50 c.; planches en noir: 3 fr. . . . livraison des Suites à Buffon.".

It can be shown, however, that the Bibliographie de France for once was wrong. The volume, namely, appeared in two parts: At the "séance du lundi 27 janvier 1840" of the Académie des Sciences of Paris (C. R. Acad. Sci. Paris, 10: 127) "M. Flourens présente au nom de l'auteur, M. Milne Ed-

wards, la 1re partie du 3e volume de l'*Histoire des Crustacés*. Cette partie renferme la classification et la description des Crustacés amphipodes, loemodipodes, isopodes et trilobites.". This part consists of pp. 1-348, and thus comprises 21¾ sheets.

The second part (pp. 349-638, i, ii) was presented at the meeting of the Académie of 19 October 1840 (1840, C. R. Acad. Sci. Paris, 11: 634): "M. Milne Edwards présente à l'Académie le troisième et dernier volume de son *Histoire naturelle des Crustacés*. La première partie de ce volume, contenant l'histoire des Amphipodes, des Isopodes, des Laemodipodes et des Trilobites, avait déjà été offerte à l'Académie dans sa séance du 27 janvier 1840. La portion qui y fait suite, et qui complète ce Traité, est consacrée à la description des Branchiopodes, des Entomostracés, des Crustacés suçeurs et des Xyphosures. M. Milne Edwards fait remarquer que cet ouvrage est le premier *Species* qui ait été publié sur cette classe d'animaux.". This part, to which obviously also the index, the title pages and the "Avertissement" have to be assigned, consists of 18½ sheets.

The information concerning the dates of publication of this volume, as given in the C. R. Acad. Sci. Paris, is clear and precise. That given by the Bibliographie de France, on the contrary, obviously is quite muddled, which is most unusual for this periodical. Firstly the number of sheets cited by the Bibliographie de France for vol. III does not fit either the first or the second part, or, for that matter, the entire volume. If the 24¾ sheets mentioned by the Bibliographie is an error for 21¾ sheets, then the reference given could pertain just to the first part. In that case the indication "Impr. de Fain, à Paris" also might be correct; in October 1840, namely, the name of the printers had been changed to "Imprimerie de Fain et Thunot". A search in Bibliographie de France of 1838 to 1845 failed to produce any other data on this third volume.

A peculiar feature of vol. III is that it contains two incomplete sheets in the middle of the text: sheet 22 contains only 12 pages (pp. 337-348) instead of 16, sheet 39 has only two pages (p. 605 and a blank page); the last sheet (no. 41) is complete (pp. 623-638). Sheet 22 is incomplete because it is the end of part 1 of the text, which ends on p. 348. It seems possible that part 2 of the text originally ended on p. 605, and that the "Liste alphabétique des espèces, genres, familles, etc., cités dans cet ouvrage" (pp. 607-638) was added later. Three facts support this view: (a) on p. 638 there are errata to part 2 of volume III (viz., to pp. 534 and 537); (b) in two copies examined by Dr. Raymond B. Manning the "Liste alphabétique" is lacking in vol. III; (c) my unbound copy of the atlas not only contains the plates and the "Explication des planches des Crustacés" (pp. 1-32), but also the "Liste

alphabétique", while to the whole is added a slip with the following instructions to the binder: "Avis au relieur pour l'Histoire des Crustacés, par M. Milne-Edwards. - *La liste alphabétique* des espèces, genres, familles, etc., cités dans cet ouvrage, doit être mise à la fin du tome 3. L'explication des planches doit être réunie aux figures, et former ainsi un atlas séparé.". It seems most probable therefore that sheets 40 and 41 (pp. 607-638) of vol. III were printed separately from the rest of the text and issued together with the last plates and the full explanation of the plates. It is probable that the second part of the text of volume III and the last part of the plates (with the explanation of the plates and the "Liste alphabétique"), even though printed at different times, were published simultaneously, so that Milne Edwards in October 1840 could announce the completion of the work.

We thus may accept the date of publication of vol. III pp. 1-348 to be 27 January 1840, and that of vol. III, titles, pp. i, ii, 349-638, to be 19 October 1840.

Atlas.

On the verso of the half title in R.-P. Lesson's (1843) "Histoire naturelle des Zoophytes. Acalèphes" is printed a list of those volumes of the series "Suites à Buffon" that were published in 1843. Among these is also H. Milne Edwards's "Histoire naturelle des Crustacés", which is said to contain "3 volumes et 4 livraisons de planches". Engelmann (1846, Bibliotheca Historico-naturalis, 1: 154) cited the atlas of the present work to consist of "4 Livr. de 42 planches". In the copies consulted by me, however, there are 44 plates: pls. 1-42, 14bis, and 25bis, although on the title page of the atlas also only 42 plates are mentioned (see below). The plates are preceded by an explanatory text (pp. 1-32) and 4 pages of preliminaries (the half title, its verso, the title and its verso). The half title reads: Histoire naturelle / des / Crustacés. / — / Atlas.". Its verso has only the line "Paris. — Imprimerie de Fain et Thunot, Rue Racine, 28." at the bottom. The actual title page reads: "Histoire naturelle / des / Crustacés, / par M. Milne-Edwards, / Membre de l'Institut, professeur-administrateur au Muséum / d'Histoire Naturelle, etc., etc. / — / Atlas / Renfermant 42 planches gravées sur acier. / Paris. / Librairie encyclopédique de Roret, / Rue Hautefeuille, N° 10 bis."; the verso is blank. In my own copy there are furthermore two preliminary explanations, each dealing with 10 of the plates, and consisting of three printed and numbered pages and one page without text or number; these will be discussed below.

Seventeen of the plates bear in the lower left hand corner the indication

"L. E. del.", which according to Cowan (1976, Journ. Soc. Bibliography nat. Hist., 8 (1): 42, 48) might stand for Laura Milne Edwards, the wife of the author. The artist of the other plates is not indicated.

Dr. Raymond B. Manning drew my attention to the fact that a variant exists of plate 1. This variant differs from the normal plate 1 by that it has the following line printed on the bottom part of the plate: "Imp. Roret, r. Hautefeuille 12"; it was found by Dr. Manning in his own copy of the atlas, which had a paper cover of the third type discussed above (p. 287). A similar variant of pl. 1 was found in the copy of the atlas (with coloured plates) owned by the Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie, and in an uncoloured copy of the atlas which was kindly placed at my disposal by Mr. A. Schierenberg of Antiquariaat W. Junk, Lochem. This uncoloured copy was provided with the paper cover of the second type described above (p. 287). As Roret's address changed to Rue Hautefeuille 12 some time after 1846 (see p. 287), the line on the variant plate must have been printed on it long after the entire book was published. It was evidently done when the book was issued with new covers (of type 2), which also bear the new address.

As shown by the entries concerning volumes I and II of the "Histoire Naturelle des Crustacés" in the Bibliographie de France (1834, vol. 23 (15): 239; and 1837, vol. 26 (26): 308), either of these volumes was published with "un cahier de 10 pl. et un quart de feuille". The ¼ sheet proves to be the preliminary explanation of the 10 plates that accompany it; both explanations are still present in my own copy. The explanation of the first (1834) livraison of plates has as title: "Suites à Buffon. / — / Indication des planches / composant la 1re. livraison / des Crustacés. / (L'explication détaillée de ces planches sera jointe à la dernière / livraison, qui paraîtra avec le second volume de ce traité.)". The first three pages of this ¼ sheet contain short explanations of pls. 3, 5, 6 (on p. 1); pls. 15, 16, 17, 20, 22 (on p. 2); pls. 23, 25 (on p. 3); the fourth page being blank. No latin names are used, except in the explanations of pls. 3, 5, and 6, which are said to represent "*Maïa squinado*", everywhere else the French vernacular names are used. It is interesting to note that according to the definite explanation of the plates, pl. 3 does not show "*Maïa squinado*", but "Maïa verruqueux" (= *Maja verrucosa* H. Milne Edwards).

The second livraison of plates, published with vol. II of the text, has the preliminary explanation with the following title: "Indication des planches / composant la 2e. livraison / des Crustacés. / (L'explication générale des planches paraîtra avec le troisième et / dernier volume de cet ouvrage.)". This title is followed by the explanation of pls. 1, 2, 7 (on p. 1); pls. 8, 10, 14, 18, 19, 21 (on p. 2); and pl. 24 on p. 3; the fourth page is blank. In this expla-

nation only French vernacular names are used. In my copy the cover of this livraison is also preserved; it has been described above (p. 286) as being of the first type.

No preliminary explanations of the plates other than those of livraisons 1 and 2 are in my copy of the atlas, and I know of none in other copies. Actually in none of the 6 copies of the atlas that I know besides my own, there are any preliminary explanations at all; these obviously have all been discarded when the atlas was bound, while the publisher may have done away with them after the atlas was completed.

Of 20 plates thus the date of publication is now known with certainty, and we may accept that the remaining plates (pls. 4, 9, 11-13, 14 bis, 25 bis, 26-42) have been published in 1840 with volume III. This is the more likely as in 1839 it was stated that of the "Histoire Naturelle des Crustacés" were published "tome 1 et 2 avec 2 livraisons de planches" (Duméril & Bibron, 1839, Erpétologie générale, 5: verso of half title). It is possible that 10 of these plates (with a preliminary explanatory text?) have been published in January 1840 with the first part of the text of vol. III, and that the reference in Bibliographie de France (vol. 29 (44): 592) of 31 October 1840 to "un cahier de 10 pl. et un quart de feuille" refers to these. The remaining 14 plates and the definite explanatory text (as well as the "Liste alphabétique" of vol. III) would then have been published in October 1840 together with the last part of vol. III of the text. This then would also account for the statements made in Lesson (1843, Hist. nat. Zoophytes. Acalèphes: verso of half title), and by Engelmann (1846, Bibliotheca Historico-naturalis, 1: 154) that there were "4 livraisons de planches". Whatever are the actual dates of publications of the third (and fourth?) livraison of plates, we may assume that they were published in 1840 and before October 19, when H. Milne Edwards stated the work to be complete.

The nomenclatural dates of publication of the entire work now are the following (the true dates of publication may be, and probably are, earlier, but the ones given here are the earliest on which there is positive evidence that that part of the work was published; see Art. 21 (b) of the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature):

vol. I	entire text: pp. i-xxxv, 1-468, titles, 5 tables (4 folding)	12 April 1834
vol. II	entire text: pp. 1-532, titles, 2 folding tables	1 July 1837
vol. III	pt. 1 pp. 1-348, 3 folding tables	27 January 1840
	pt. 2 pp. i, ii, 349-638, titles, 2 folding tables	19 October 1840
atlas	pt. 1 (pp. 1-3), pls. 3, 5, 6, 15, 16, 17, 20, 22, 23, 25	12 April 1834
	pt. 2 (pp. 1-3), pls. 1, 2, 7, 8, 10, 14, 18, 19, 21, 24	1 July 1837
	pt. 3 (+ 4?) pp. 1-32, titles, pls. 4, 9, 11-13, 14bis, 25bis, 26-42	19 October 1840

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